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RESEARCH MEMORANDUM

STATISTICAL SURVEY OF ICING DATA MEASURED ON SCHEDULED

AIRLINE FLIGHTS OVER THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

FROM NOVEMBER 1951 TO JUNE 1952

By Porter J. Perkins

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NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR AERONAUTICS

WASHINGTON

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SUMMARY

A statistical survey and a preliminary analysis are made of icing data collected from scheduled flights over the United States and Canada from November 1951 to June 1952 by airline aircraft equipped with NACA pressure-type icing-rate meters. This interim report presents information obtained from a continuing program sponsored by the NACA with the cooperation of the airlines.

An analysis of over 600 icing encounters logged by three airlines operating in the United States, one operating in Canada and one operating up the coast to Alaska, is presented. The icing conditions encountered provided relative frequencies of many icing-cloud variables, such as horizontal extent, vertical thickness, temperatures, icing rate, liquid-water content, and total ice accumulation.

Liquid-water contents were higher than data from earlier research flights in layer-type clouds but slightly lower than previous data from cumulus clouds. Broken-cloud conditions, indicated by intermittent icing, accounted for nearly one-half of all the icing encounters. About 90 percent of the encounters did not exceed a distance of 120 miles, and continuous icing did not exceed 50 miles for 90 percent of the unbroken conditions. Icing cloud thicknesses measured during climbs and descents were less than 4500 feet for 90 percent of the vertical cloud traverses.

INTRODUCTION

Meteorological data obtained from NACA icing research flights in supercooled clouds have provided information for the design of present ice-protection systems (ref. 1). These data were received from a relatively small number of flights within the United States. As a result of specialized flight planning involving selected weather conditions, flight paths, and cruising altitudes, the information provided may not have been representative of conditions encountered by aircraft on routine schedules

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following conventional flight procedures. Additional knowledge of the icing problem including the extent, frequency, and severity of icing conditions experienced by scheduled airlines over world-wide air routes is required by aircraft designers and by aircraft operators in prescribing flight control procedures.

A program to obtain these more extensive icing-cloud data is being conducted by the NACA Lewis laboratory in cooperation with several major airlines and the United States Air Force. Several types of aircraft are equipped with NACA pressure-type icing-rate meters specifically developed for measuring icing encountered during scheduled operations. A preliminary report has been issued (ref. 2) which described the initial phase of this program over only one transcontinental air route in the United States from January through May, 1951. The program later was expanded to cover many domestic and overseas air routes and off-airway areas.

This interim report presents a preliminary analysis of data collected by three airlines (United, Eastern, and Northeast) operating in the United States from November 1951 to June 1952. Data for the same period have also been included from Trans-Canada Air Lines operating across southern Canada and from Pan American World Airways flying the Pacific Coast route to Alaska. A limited number of aircraft from each airline were equipped with the icing-rate meters which recorded continuous values of altitude, airspeed, and icing rate during icing conditions. Much of the data was limited to film records only. The cooperation of the airlines in obtaining these data is gratefully acknowledged.

A detailed study of the frequency of icing conditions with respect to total time over the various routes was not possible because the total flight times of the instrumented aircraft were unknown. An inspection of flight logs will be made later to find the flight time on airways and at various altitudes.

APPARATUS AND PROCEDURE

Icing-Rate Meter

The icing-rate meter installed on the airline aircraft was a pressure-actuating type developed by the NACA Lewis laboratory specifically for collecting statistical icing data. The meter (described in ref. 3) consists of three units, the ice-sensing probe, the film recorder, and the control unit (fig. 1).

The principle of operation of the meter is explained in figure 2, which shows an ice-sensing probe of 0.1-inch diameter containing small total-pressure holes mounted in the airstream and connected to a differential pressure switch. The total pressure from the probe is balanced against an ice-free total-pressure system (the conventional pitot pressure system in the aircraft). When the holes in the ice-sensing probe start to plug as ice builds up on the probe, the pressure in the probe side of the

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pressure switch decreases. This is accomplished by allowing the air in the system to flow out through a small orifice connected to a static-pressure source. At a given value of differential pressure, the switch energizes an electric heater which de-ices the ice-plugged holes, thereby restoring the pressure balance. The time required to actuate the switch, or the heat-off period of this cyclic process, is inversely related to the rate of ice accumulation on the probe and is used as a measure of the icing rate. The calibration of the ice-sensing probe for rate of ice accretion in inches per hour is discussed in the appendix.

Recording of Data

Icing rate, indicated airspeed, and pressure altitude were recorded on photographic film contained in a replaceable drum. The film recorder started automatically at the beginning of each icing condition and shut off automatically 15 minutes after the end of icing for each encounter. The 15-minute record after icing had terminated provided approximately a minimum of 50-miles separation between icing periods when icing clouds were encountered more than once during the same flight.

A special data sheet requesting supplemental information from the flight crews was supplied by the NACA to correlate with the recorded data. The data sheet (shown in fig. 3) includes such items as time, date, location, and effects on aircraft performance.

A typical film record of icing encountered during a routine airline flight is shown in figure 4. Airspeed and altitude are recorded as continuous traces, and the icing-rate indications are shown as broken horizontal lines at the bottom of the film varying in length according to the duration of the heat-off period. The length of each broken line is converted to time and then to icing rate by using the icing-research-tunnel calibration discussed in the appendix. Correlation of the film data with the flight crew observations when available provided detailed information for each icing encounter.

Installation on Aircraft

The icing-rate meters were installed on five different types of aircraft (DC-3, DC-4, Convair 240, Constellation, and North Star). A typical installation of the ice-sensing probe mounted on a DC-4 is shown in figure 5. The installations were usually on or near the top of the fuselage and as far forward as possible. Flight tests on each type aircraft were made to determine whether the air-flow characteristics and total pressure at the probe locations were the same as those measured by the conventional pitot tube.

The film recorder was mounted in the aircraft at a convenient location for replacing the film drums. The airspeed and altitude capsules in the recorder were connected to the conventional total- and static-pressure systems in the aircraft. The indicating lights on the control unit, or in some cases on a separate panel in the cockpit, alerted the flight crew to record the information on the supplemental data sheet when the film recorder operated in an icing condition. An indication of the rate of icing on the ice-sensing probe was supplied to the crew by a flashing light paralleled with the cyclic de-icing system of the probe.

ANALYSIS OF DATA

An icing encounter was defined as a period of continuous or intermittent icing where periods of nonicing did not exceed 15 minutes. Periods within an icing encounter during which ice accumulation was continuous, as indicated by at least one operating cycle of the meter during a 1-minute period, are defined in this analysis as icing incidents. Separating periods of continuous icing from periods of nonicing gave a limited estimate of the discontinuous nature of the icing clouds.

Individual icing encounters were separated on the film by simultaneous breaks in all the continuous traces. Each encounter was then ociated with the corresponding entries on the data sheet. The encounter was marked off on the film in 1-minute intervals, and the icing-rate, altitude, and airspeed traces were each averaged and computed as one value for each 1-minute period. The pressure altitude was measured to an accuracy of ±100 feet using NACA standard atmosphere. Since the indicated airspeed fluctuated considerably, particularly in areas of turbulence, the average values were calculated within about ±3 miles per hour.

The simultaneous measurements of altitude and rate of icing on the film made possible an analysis of the vertical extent or thickness of icing-cloud layers encountered during climbing and descending. These cloud-thickness measurements may not in some cases be fully correct because of the impossibility of determining from the records whether the aircraft traversed the full extent of the layer. The aircraft may have entered or emerged from the cloud at some point between the top and bottom. Also, errors may be caused in some cases by long horizontal distances resulting from slow rates of climb or descent. Also, in many cases the vertical extent of multiple layers may not have been completely surveyed because cruising altitudes are often assigned between cloud layers.

The measurements of icing rate and airspeed were used to calculate values of liquid-water content of the icing clouds. In this report liquid-water content w in grams per cubic meter was computed from the relation

where

R icing rate, in./hr

V true airspeed, mph

ρ density of ice

E collection efficiency of sensing probe

Both the density of ice $\,\rho\,$ on the probe and the droplet collection efficiency E of the probe were assumed constant with $\,\rho/E\,$ as unity for all conditions. Some simultaneous measurements of liquid-water content using the icing-rate meter and rotating multicylinders have been made during icing research flights. This limited comparison showed that the meter measurements are generally higher than those from the cylinders, particularly in conditions where liquid-water content fluctuated considerably and produced high peak values. The two methods agreed within 10 percent in icing conditions that produced a steady rate of icing with water contents under 0.5 g/cu m. Collection efficiency variations resulting from changes in droplet size and limited accuracy of the icing-rate measurements probably contribute to the limited agreement of the two measuring methods.

Droplet-size data were not obtained in this program because of measurement difficulties, thereby preventing a complete evaluation of the severity of the icing encounters. The probable severity of the icing conditions can be estimated, however, by relating the extent of the icing encounters, the liquid-water content, and the temperature data which are measured in this survey to previous icing measurements which included droplet sizes. The frequency distribution of droplet sizes have been obtained by instrumented research flights by the NACA and other agencies and are reported in reference 4.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The approximately 600 icing encounters analyzel in this report were logged during the period from November 1951 through June 1952. These encounters gave almost 10 times the amount of data reported in the preliminary survey of reference 2 because of the greater amount of flying time accumulated during the latter period. The data are assembled and summarized in tables I and II. Table I contains all icing-rate meter measurements which could be associated with the corresponding flight crew observations. Table II contains all icing-rate meter measurements which could not be associated with flight crew observations either because of

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questionable correlation of the individual icing encounters or the absence of any flight observations when the meters were operating. Flight crew observations which could not be correlated with any icing-rate meter records were included in analyses of the frequency of occurrence of icing with respect to altitudes and icing-cloud temperatures.

Because of the manner in which the data were collected, the icing data presented herein should not be used to evaluate the full range of meteorological variables that may be associated with icing clouds. The airline aircraft collecting the data followed conventional flight procedures established to reduce the potential hazard of icing encounters. Known icing conditions were probably avoided wherever possible. If icing was encountered which was considered hazardous or in any way hampered the conduct of the flight, airway clearances were obtained, if possible, to climb or descend out of the icing condition. As a result, such conditions would not be fully surveyed since the maximum horizontal extent would not be known and possibly the maximum severity would not be encountered. some cases, however, severe conditions cannot be avoided because of traffic restrictions or altitude limitations. The occurrence of such circumstances is undoubtedly very infrequent; therefore, the full extent and severity that may exist in icing conditions will probably not be measured during scheduled airline operations until a large amount of data is assembled. The amount of information presented herein is probably sufficient to give representative icing values for airline operation over many of the areas covered.

The number and types of instrumented aircraft with the corresponding number of icing encounters over the various air routes are listed in the following table. Although five types of airline aircraft were instrumented, most of the meters were installed on types which limited a predominant part of the data to relatively low altitudes.

Airline	Number of aircraft with meters installed	Type of aircraft	Routes covered	Number of icing encounters
United	6	DC-4	Transcontinental and Pacific Coast U.S.	319
Eastern	1	Constellation 749	Eastern U.S.	83
Northeast	2	DC-3 and Convair 240	Northeast U.S.	58
Trans-Canada	1	North Star (DC-4)	Transcontinental (Southern Canada)	79
Pan American	1	DC-4	Pacific Coast between U.S. and Alaska	83
Totals	11.	5 types	6 areas	622

Air routes covered by survey. - All the icing data were collected along the air routes flown by the five airlines as outlined in figure 6. The United States was covered by a transcontinental air route from New York to San Francisco, by East Coast routes from Miami to northern Maine, and by a West Coast route from Los Angeles to Seattle. A limited amount of data was obtained from a transcontinental route across southern Canada and from a Pacific Coast route to Alaska from Seattle. The air route across the United States, which was also surveyed the previous season (ref. 2), supplied data from the Great Lakes area and over the Central Rocky Mountains.

The frequency of occurrence of icing with respect to particular areas or routes could not be determined at the time of this analysis because the amount of total flying time with meter-equipped aircraft over any particular area or route, for the period of the survey, was not known. Since the instrumented aircraft were not generally confined to any one route, the data received from a particular aircraft did not represent the frequency of icing for a given route.

Horizontal Extent of Icing Clouds

Prolonged periods in icing conditions even at low rates of accumulation can produce adverse effects on aircraft performance. Certain unprotected aircraft components which can tolerate small accumulations of ice are hampered by large accretions resulting from extensive icing periods. Hence, the horizontal extent of an icing encounter is of particular significance in evaluating icing conditions. The extent of icing during airline operations is usually measured during straight-line flight, although some encounters may be prolonged because of holding or following some other traffic-control procedure within an icing area. The distance between scheduled stops influences the extent of icing measured by some airlines, particularly those with short routes.

A study of the film records showed that almost one-half the prolonged icing encounters contain intermittent periods during which ice does not form indicating broken icing-cloud formations. Conditions of continuous ice accretion over appreciable distances were rather infrequent and usually were associated with severe icing conditions. In cases of prolonged nonicing periods, more than one icing encounter was logged during the flight since, as discussed previously, the meter stopped after a period of nonicing exceeding 15 minutes.

The horizontal extent of icing encounters is tabulated in tables I and II. A cumulative frequency curve plotted from these values (fig. 7) shows that about 10 percent of the encounters extended 120 miles or more and that the greatest distance in an icing encounter was 430 miles. Over 400 separate encounters from all the air routes surveyed during the season

are included in this plot. The data include the encounters recorded during climb and descent as well as at cruising altitudes and, therefore, define the extent of icing encounters as experienced during routine airline operating procedures.

The number of icing incidents (periods of continuous ice accretion) within any encounter is tabulated in tables I and II. Over one-half the encounters were single icing incidents (continuous during entire encounter). Only a very small percentage of the encounters contained four or more icing incidents as shown on the graph in figure 8. The maximum number of icing incidents per encounter was obtained from the Pacific Coast route to Alaska where 10 incidents were recorded over a distance of 147 miles in one case and over a distance of 213 miles in another.

The longest icing incident within each encounter is also tabulated in tables I and II. The maximum extent of continuous icing measured was 124 miles, whereas 90 percent of the longest incidents within each encounter were less than 50 miles. These data are plotted as a cumulative frequency curve in figure 9.

The existence of nonicing periods within an encounter shows that continuous icing protection may not be needed during an entire encounter. In many cases, the extent of icing in discontinuous clouds is less than one-half the total extent of the encounter. The lengths of each individual icing incident within each encounter were added together and tabulated as total horizontal distance in icing for each encounter (tables I and II). These data, plotted as a cumulative frequency curve in figure 10, show that 90 percent of the combined icing incidents extended less than 70 miles whereas 90 percent of the full encounters (including nonicing periods) extended less than 120 miles (fig. 7).

Vertical Extent of Icing Clouds

About 40 percent of the encounters were recorded during either climb or descent, thus providing a substantial quantity of data for evaluation of the thickness of icing cloud layers. Possible errors in the interpretation of these data were discussed in the ANALAYSIS OF DATA section. Depending on the operation of the meter, the data were grouped for single or multiple cloud layers. A multiple-layer cloud system was interpreted from the film record when a period of nonicing existed for at least 1 minute while the aircraft was changing altitude. This method does not establish the actual existence of multiple layers but rather separates intermittent conditions from continuous periods of ice accretion during climb or descent.

The vertical extent of icing clouds obtained from these data is plotted in figure 11. The maximum multiple-cloud thickness measured was

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10,800 feet compared with only 4000 feet measured during the early part of the statistical program (ref. 2). The 10,800-foot descent (12,800 to 2000 feet over the East Coast U. S.) appeared to be composed of three layers of icing clouds in which icing was measured during 44 percent of the descent. The maximum thickness of single layers measured 5500 feet. The cloud thicknesses for all single and multiple layers flown through did not exceed 4500 feet for 90 percent of the climbs and descents. It is of interest to note that about two-thirds of the data providing cloud thickness measurements were obtained during descent and only about one-third during climb. This indicates that, operationally, icing can be more readily avoided during climb, probably because preflight briefing permits a choice of flight path which would in many cases avoid flight through a cloud layer.

Altitude Range of Survey

The airline aircraft collecting the icing data operated over a range of altitude, determined by the type of aircraft, the distance between steps, and the type of terrain over which the flights were conducted. The amount of flight time at various altitudes could not be obtained for the present data and, therefore, the frequency of occurrence of icing with respect to altitude could not be determined. Icing was encountered at altitudes ranging from 1500 to 22,000 feet, whereas the most frequent cruising altitude was 10,000 feet. Because of the small amount of time at higher altitudes, only 5 percent of the icing was encountered at altitudes over 15,000 feet. United Air Lines' flights across the United States and along the West Coast encountered icing predominantly between 5000 and 8000 feet and also between 11,000 and 14,000 feet. Most of Eastern Air Lines' icing data were obtained above 12,000 feet, whereas Northeast Airlines' icing encounters were all obtained below 8000 feet. The Pacific Coast route to Alaska provided icing data at altitudes between 8000 and 13,000 feet.

Temperature of Icing Clouds

The temperature of icing clouds is a prime factor in establishing the amount of heat required for ice prevention or removal in thermal protection systems. The temperature data from this survey are included to add to the published research information (ref. 1) on temperatures of icing clouds. In evaluating the data it should be realized that the conventional aircraft temperature indicator from which the present data were obtained has limited accuracy, particularly in icing clouds. The accuracy of the temperature observation was indicated by the fact that when the frequency of the temperature values was tabulated in 1°C increments the readings peaked at values of 0°, -5°, -10°, and -15° C. The scale of the temperature indicator on most aircraft can be read conveniently only to the nearest 5° C increment, and the values between are approximations.

In calculating the true cloud temperatures from the indicated values, a correction for the kinetic temperature rise in saturated air as a function of airspeed and altitude was applied. A recovery factor of 85 percent for the probe was used based on a flight calibration in dry air of an airline temperature installation. A cumulative frequency curve of the corrected data (table I and other flight crew observations) plotted in figure 12 shows that 90 percent of the temperature observations were above -15° C ($+5^{\circ}$ F) and that the lowest temperature measured in icing clouds was -27° C (-17° F), which is about equivalent to the lowest temperature previously reported (ref. 1). Figure 12 includes 380 temperature observations from all the air routes. Temperatures obtained across southern Canada and from the Pacific Coast route to Alaska were generally lower than those from the more southern latitudes within the same altitude range.

Icing cloud temperatures as a function of pressure altitude are shown in figure 13. In this plot, the average temperatures were computed for each 1000-foot increment of altitude. The wide spread of temperatures for the altitude range covered by the present data is outlined by the shaded area on the figure. For data obtained during climbing and descending, the temperature readings were assumed to be taken at the altitude where icing was first encountered. A rather consistent drop in the average temperatures with increasing altitude is noted, although there was considerable scatter because of the few observations available at altitudes greater than 15,000 feet. Temperatures from previous research data (ref. 1) also plotted in figure 13 show rather good agreement with the present data below 12,000 feet, but are over 6° C lower at altitudes greater than 12,000 feet. The large differences, particularly at higher altitudes, may be attributed to climatic conditions. Most of the data at altitudes above 12,000 feet were obtained from southeastern United States, whereas a large part below 8000 feet were obtained from northeastern United States. Most of the temperatures from the middle altitudes were measured over the central route across the United States.

Icing-Rate Measurements

The intensity of the icing encounters is defined in this report as the rate of ice accumulation on the icing-rate meter probe. The icing rate was also used to calculate the approximate liquid-water content of the icing clouds. Not all the icing-rate values indicated by the meters can be considered reliable, however, because incomplete freezing or run-off effects were experienced by the probe at cloud temperatures above -11° C. Unfortunately, about 60 percent of the icing-rate data were without corresponding temperature observations and therefore could not be evaluated as being within or outside the reliable range of operation of the probe.

The icing-rate data with associated temperature observations were used to determine the intensity of the encounters. The range of icing rates considered reliable is shown in figure 14 as a function of cloud temperature (discussed in the appendix). This curve shows, for example, that at -6° C (21° F) icing rates up to 5 inches per hour are within the calibration accuracy, but beyond this rate run-off occurs and the data become unreliable. To determine the frequency of occurrence of reliable icing rates as well as those beyond the range of the meter, the data were plotted on a cumulative frequency basis with respect to total time in icing conditions. As explained in the section ANALYSIS OF DATA, the average icing rate was computed for each 1-minute period. This gave approximately 1400 minutes of icing-rate measurements with known cloud temperatures. Figure 15 is a plot of these data grouped according to temperature intervals and considered on a cumulative basis using icing rates equal to or exceeding 1 inch per hour. The temperature grouping allows extrapolations of the icing-rate data beyond the reliable limits. The extrapolations are based on the slope of the curve for the low temperatures which is well defined within the reliable limits. can be represented by a straight line on semilog paper. The solid lines extend to the limits of reliable measurements, whereas the dashed lines are extrapolations beyond these limits. Figure 15 indicates that the frequency of given icing rates increases with temperature. This greater frequency results from the greater amount of flying time in icing at the higher temperatures (80 percent of the encounters were above -110 C, fig. 12). The fact that all the lines have the same slope would indicate that there is no dependence of icing rate on cloud temperatures; this may not be quite true for all icing conditions.

Liquid-Water-Content Calculations

Average values of liquid-water content for each 1-minute increment of icing were computed from the corresponding icing-rate values. The results were considered reliable or unreliable as established by the icing-rate data and are plotted in figure 16 for the same temperature intervals as used for icing rates. The solid lines are within the reliable range and the dashed lines represent extrapolations beyond the runoff limits. The greater frequency of higher water contents associated with high temperatures is also evident in this figure. In the temperature interval from -2° to -4° C, about 10 percent of all the data exceeded 0.5 gram per cubic meter; less than 6 percent of all the data exceeded this value at temperatures below -10° C. An extrapolation of the data in the temperature interval from -2° to -4° C shows that 1.0 gram per cubic meter or greater exists for only 2 minutes of every 100 minutes in icing.

A frequency distribution of liquid-water content for all temperatures can be obtained by totaling the reliable and extrapolated frequencies of figure 16. The data in the temperature intervals of figure 16

are combined into the solid line shown in figure 17. Only liquid-water contents greater than 0.1 gram per cubic meter were considered. This figure shows, for example, that the liquid-water content is greater than 1.0 gram per cubic meter for 7 minutes out of every 100 minutes in icing conditions. The total data obtained from the meters including those in the unreliable range are also plotted on this figure. These data indicate that the meters gave somewhat higher values in the unreliable range at liquid-water contents up to about 0.9 gram per cubic meter and then dropped off rapidly as the intercepted water ran off the ice-sensing probe. This comparison indicates that all the measurements (reliable and unreliable) treated as a group are within +15 percent of the probable values up to 1.0 gram per cubic meter.

The water contents measured during airline operation were slightly lower than previously published data from rotating multicylinders taken in cumulus clouds but are considerably higher than similar measurements taken in layer-type clouds (refs. 5 to 8). These comparisons are also plotted on figure 17. Whereas 1 percent of the liquid-water contents of the present data probably exceeded 1.6 grams per cubic meter, the same amount from the earlier data exceeded only 0.7 gram per cubic meter in layer-type clouds. A distinction between cloud types was not possible from the airline observations, although it would be reasonable to assume that most of the records came from layer-type clouds, considering operational procedures, time of the year, and the areas over which the data were taken. The duration of the encounters would further indicate a predominance of data from layer-type clouds. The difference of measuring methods used to obtain these data and those previously published may be responsible for the differences in the data results. The icing-rate meter data are continuous for an entire icing condition and give an average for 1-minute intervals, whereas the multicylinder method only sampled the clouds at certain times and gave an average value over intervals of from 3 to 5 minutes. Also, as pointed out in the previous section ANALYSIS OF DATA the meter indicated higher liquid-water contents than those simultaneously measured with multicylinders in nonuniform icing clouds.

The relation of average liquid-water content to the horizontal extent of icing clouds in an encounter (neglecting nonicing periods) was studied using all the data regardless of the reliability of the measurements. For average liquid-water contents up to 0.7 gram per cubic meter, no particular variation with the extent of icing clouds was evident within distances of about 80 miles. At distances greater than 80 miles, however, average liquid-water content decreased with increasing extent and only 0.3 gram per cubic meter or less existed in distances exceeding 160 miles. The greatest extent of icing clouds measuring above 0.7 gram per cubic meter was 90 miles, and 90 percent of these higher liquid-water contents were in icing clouds extending less than 50 miles.

The icing-rate records indicated considerable variation of liquid-water content accompanying many of the intermittent icing conditions. Average values of icing rate for complete encounters, excluding periods of nonicing which exceeded 1 minute, are tabulated in tables I and II. The average liquid-water content was determined for the longest continuous incident selected from the intermittent conditions in each encounter. These values, also tabulated in tables I and II, are in some cases about 0.2 gram per cubic meter higher than the average for the entire encounter.

Total Ice Accumulation

Liquid-water content and extent of the icing clouds determines the total thickness of ice collected on aircraft components excluding collection-efficiency effects. The total ice thickness is defined as the thickness calculated to accumulate on the sensing probe if it was not de-iced periodically. This can be considered as the largest thickness that any component collects because of the high collection efficiency of the probe. This value is considered to partially measure the severity of an icing condition and is used as a basis for comparison of the statistical data.

An ice thickness that would hypothetically collect on the sensing probe was obtained by totaling the 1-minute periods of icing rate (in./min) measured by the probe during each encounter. The ice thickness was computed for each encounter and is tabulated in tables I and II. A cumulative frequency curve of these values using all the data collected from the meters is plotted in figure 18. This plot shows that about 93 percent of the data are from icing encounters where 2 inches or less of ice would have accumulated on the probe. Conditions yielding up to this amount of ice were called "trace to light icing" by the flight crews, depending upon the cloud temperature and the type of aircraft. Cloud temperature can influence the type of ice formation with equivalent total accretions, creating more adverse conditions (mushroom-type ice) at higher temperatures. Hypothetical ice accumulations greater than 2 inches (7 percent of the encounters) were generally called "moderate icing" by the flight crews. Moderate icing caused losses of airspeed up to 25 miles per hour or required an increase in engine power. The maximum accretion calculated was 6 inches of ice, which was collected over a distance of 151 miles in one case and 158 miles in another case.

A close agreement is shown in figure 18 between the limited quantity of preliminary data obtained during 1950 and 1951 (ref. 2) and the more extensive data collected during 1951 and 1952. The information of this report is almost 10 times the volume of the earlier data. The similarity of data from the two seasons may be explained by the fact that 55 percent of the data of this report were obtained from similar transcontinental DC-4 operations from which all the previous data were obtained.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

This report summarizes the statistical icing data collected from scheduled airline flights over United States and Canadian air routes from November 1951 to June 1952. The following significant information was provided:

- (1) Almost one-half of over 600 separate icing encounters logged by the airline aircraft were intermittent icing conditions where several nonicing periods during an encounter indicated broken-cloud conditions.
- (2) About 10 percent of the encounters exceeded 120 miles in horizontal extent, with one encounter reaching a distance of 430 miles. Distances in which icing was continuous, however, did not exceed 124 miles, and 90 percent of these unbroken conditions extended less than 50 miles. These measurements were influenced by the distance between scheduled stops and by other flight procedures which varied among the airlines collecting data.
- (3) The vertical extent of icing-cloud layers measured during routine climbs and descents gave maximum cloud thicknesses of 10,800 feet for multiple layers and 5500 feet for single layers. About 90 percent of all the vertical cloud traverses were less than 4500 feet.
- (4) Almost 90 percent of the temperatures observed in icing were above -15° C (+5° F), and the lowest temperature observed was -27° C (-17° F).
- (5) Liquid-water contents computed from icing-rate measurements exceeded 1.0 gram per cubic meter for 7 minutes out of every 100 minutes in icing conditions. The total frequency distribution of water contents at all temperatures was obtained by extrapolation of the data into the unreliable range of the icing-rate meter. These data are lower than previously published information obtained in cumulus clouds but considerably higher than earlier data taken in layer-type clouds. For horizontal distances exceeding 160 miles, liquid-water contents averaged 0.3 gram per cubic meter or less.
- (6) Total ice accumulation, defined as the thickness of the ice calculated to collect on the ice-sensing probe if continuous icing was permitted, was computed to be 2 inches or less for 93 percent of the encounters. The maximum accumulation was 6 inches of ice calculated for two encounters extending about 150 miles.

Lewis Flight Propulsion Laboratory
National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics
Cleveland, Ohio, July 6, 1955

The rate of icing indicated by the ice-sensing probe can be expressed by the relation

$$R = \left(\frac{T}{P}\right) \times 60$$

where

R icing rate, in./hr

T ice thickness, in.

P icing period, or heat-off time, required to accumulate ice to thickness T, min

The icing period was determined by the ice thickness required to plug the total-pressure holes (0.016-in. diam) in the ice-sensing element (0.1-in. diam) to the point where the differential-pressure switch would be actuated (differential pressure equal to 8 in. of water). The ice accretions on the probe were viewed through an optical enlarging system in the Icing Research Tunnel of NACA Lewis laboratory. These observations showed that the required ice thickness (normally about 0.020 in. on the leading edge) varied with air velocity, air temperature, and rate of icing on the probe. The possible effects of droplet size and altitude were not investigated.

A calibration was made using the magnifying system to measure the ice thickness and a stop watch to measure the icing period. An accuracy within ±10 percent of the indicated icing rate resulted from the limited accuracy of these measurements at the higher icing rates. Since the icing period increases with decreasing icing rate, better accuracy was possible at the lower rates. An icing rate of 12 inches per hour (icing period of about 0.1 min) was considered the readable limit of the instrument, and values exceeding this amount are noted in the data tables as 12+ inches per hour.

Further studies were made in the Icing Research Tunnel to determine the effect of the heat of fusion on the ice accumulating on the probe. Some of the supercooled water impinging on the probe could be seen running back and failing to freeze to the ice surface when the surface temperature was apparently elevated to near the freezing point by the heat released as the impinging water froze on the surface. The conditions for incomplete freezing (run-off) depend upon the ambient air temperature, rate of impingement, air velocity, and altitude. The limits of air temperature and icing rate beyond which run-off occurred were determined visually and are shown in figure 14. Although the icessensing probe continues to operate above these limits, the indications

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are erratic and cannot be considered reliable. Since air velocity and altitude had little effect over the range covered, the run-off limit is shown in figure 14 as a function of only icing rate and air temperature. In the range of conditions in which run-off occurs, the data obtained are useful in defining the horizontal and vertical extent of icing clouds, the frequency of occurrence of icing, and an approximation of the icing severity.

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TABLE I. - MEASUREMENTS AND CORRELATED OBSERVATIONS OF ICING CONDITIONS ENCOUNTERED DURING ROUTINE AIRLINE OPERATIONS PROM NOVEMBER 1951 THROUGH JUNE 1952 (a) Transcontinents1 and Pacific Cosst (U.S.) routes

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TABLE 1. - Continued. MEASUREMENTS AND CORRELATED OBSERVATIONS OF ICING CONDITIONS ENCOUNTERED DURING ROUTINE AIRLINE OPERATIONS FROM NOVEMBER 1951 THOUGH JUNE 1952

Flight observations and comments		No comments Strangth from at 16 500 at	clear 10,000 ft Climb through cloud deck	No comments	No comments	No commenta No commenta No commenta No commenta	-	Light ice on windshield and wings Neavy icing	Light leing No comments No comments No comments No comments	No comments No comments No comments No comments	MOUD BUOM	No comments	Constant icing and turbulence Constant icing and turbulence Rath and eliche all the	Noderate to haavy 1cing	No commants	comments	comments	No comments	Icing from 19,000 ft down to ground	No comments No comments No comments	Thin ice on boots, visible only on	ita	9catterad snow	Neavy overcast	No commants Light rain Light rain
Location of encounter		W of Jackson, Mise. 20 Mi NNE of Norfolk, Va.	Vicnity of Lakehurst, N. J.	Batwean Cleveland, Ohio and Ypeilanti, Mich.		Miami, Fla. to Washington, D. C. 15 Mi S of Chicago, 111. SW of 9t. Louis, No. St. Louis, No. 'o Louisville, Ny.	6 of Louisville, Ky. Over Philadelphia, Pa. M of Mashington, D. C. Atlanta, Ga. to New York, N. Y.	K, N. Y. Igton,		Near Louisville, Ky. Franklin, Mass. to Boston, Mass. 1D Mi 9 of Charlotte, N. C. Lakehurst, N. J. to Arlands	City, N. J.	Grasnaboro, N. C. to Blackstone.	Va. Louisvilla, Ky. to Atlanta, Ga. Louisville, Ky. to Atlanta, Ga. Over Lumbarton, W. C.		,	Runtington, W. Va. to No	From Susquehanna River to No	50 C9T Between Birmingham, Ala. and No.		1730 EST 20 Min 9 of Newark, N. J. 0914 CST 30 Min E of Nouston, Tex. 1600 CST Batween Alexandria, Ls. and No.	, ų				0445 CST Over Louisville, Ky. 1020 CST Out of Chicago, Ill. 1135 EST Out of LaGuardia Field
Time (local)		1030 CST	1426 EST 1550 EST	1703		1200 11145 11340 1654	1735 CST 1945 EST 1040 EST 1920 EST 1945 EST	1400 EST	2000 EST 1715 CST 2025 C9T	2552 C9T 1530 EST 1130 EST 0045 EST	1	EST		EST	0230 EST	1320 EST	2125 EST	160 0500	1345 EST	730 EST 914 CST 600 CST	238 EST	0905 EST 1	640 EST E	B40 EST E	220 C9T 0
Date		11/12/51	11/13/51	11/20/51	11/25/51	12/4/51 12/8/51 12/9/51	12/9/51 12/9/51 12/10/51 12/14/51	12/18/51	12/20/51 1/4/52 1/4/52 1/6/52	1/6/52 1/7/52 1/8/52 1/9/52		O.	2/13/52 2/13/52 2/15/52		2/31/2	2/16/52	1/21/52 2			1/28/52 1/30/52 2/1/52	2/20/52 2	2/24/52 0	-	3/1/52 10	\$/9/52 0 \$/10/52 10
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we altitudes separated by / indicata beginning and end of icing during climb or dascent.

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Light to moderate rough accumula-tion Light rime on windshield and boots TABLE I. - Continued. MEASUREMENTS AND CORRELATED CREENVALICHS OF ICING CONDITIONS ENCOUNTERED DURING ROUTINE AIRLINE OPERATIONS PROM NOVEMBER 1951 THROUGH JUNE Flight observations and No comments Rapid for accumulation Light icing Rapid ice accumulation Rapid toe accumulation No ice visible Very light rime Very thin ice Trace of 1ce Trace of 1ce Over Nuntington, 7t. Lebanon, N. H. to Northfield, Vt. Northfield, Vt. to Barlington, 2000 MST Montreal, Que. to Burlington, Vt. Squantum, Mess. to Hyannis, Mass. Montpeller, Vt. to Burlington, Out of Burlington, Vt. Salem, Conn. to Providence, R. I. Over Bedford, Mana. Morcester, Mass. to Boston, Mass. Maverhill, Mass to Boston, Mass. Providence, R. I. to Moseup, Burlington, Vt. to 3. of Montpeller, Vt. Boston, Mess. to Concord, N. H. Concord, N. H. to Lebanon, N. H. pelier, Vt. to Burlington, Near Presque Lale, Maine Woodstook Conn. to Wordester, 0916 RST Woodstock, Comp. to North Scituate, Mass. 1006 RST Boston, Mass. to Fortsmouth, Location of encounter Canasan, Conn. to Port EST 1842 RBT 1845 237 152 2420 EST 2126 EST 1567 2106 1515 1856 1355 1726 (a) Northeastern (U.S.) routes 2/16/52 2/1/52 25/19/52 2/11/52 2/22/52 2/25/52 3/13/52 3/18/82 3/21/25 2/1/2 2/1/25 5/20/25 \$/51/82 \$/24/52 3/1/52 3 Aver- Average Hori- a age liquid- sontal li loing water ex-trate, con-trate, con-trate, con-trate, con-trate, con-Maximum continuous loing incident within encounter 600 7.7 8.5 .. for all for al Average loing for all foliations. Total bori-zontal icing, of loing incl-denta mori-zontal extent of en-coun-ter, 6,800/7,900 5,200 6,400/3,000 3,200/2,100 Pressure altitude, a ft 4,500/6,500 2,200/1,000 2,200/3,200 3,600/3,000 5,200 4,900/3,600 5,800 2,300 2,500 4,100/5,300 1,600/2,200 5,200/600 3,300/4,500 2,900/2,200 5,100/3,500 6,300/5,800 4,800/2,200 000,8,000,8 2,400 2,600 000'8

Two altitudes separated by / indicate beginning and end of icing during climb or descen

TABLE I. - Concluded. MEASUREMENTS AND CORRELATED OBSERVATIONS OF ICING CONDITIONS ENCOUNTERED DURING ROUTINE AIRLINE OPERATIONS FROM NOVEMBER 1951 THROUGH JUNE 1952

	Fight observations and comments	E	No comments Ice on windshield No comments	Trace of rime in altostratue cloud	No comments No comments		Light to moderate glaze No commente No commente No commente No commente	No comments No commente No commente No commente No commente	No comments Trace of 1ce	Light freezing rain at start of		Light rime, lost 25 mph airspeed	Trace of rime	Trace of rime Trace of rime Total accumulation considered trace	Very soft ice	No comments Airspeed dropped from 182 to 160 mph	Mixed rime and snow Rime ice, used 800 hp Light rime	Intermittent light rime No comments Intermittent icing	Light icing Light icing
	Location of encounter		BOA	Bay, Ont. Between St. John'e, Newf. and	Montreal, que. Over Lake Superior 10 M1 E of London, Ont.	llaeka	Pat Bay, B. C. to Comox, B. C.	Pat Bay, B. C. to Comox, B. C.	2 2	Anacka Anacka Island to Gustavus,	8	Z		Over Port Gamble, Wash. Over Annette Island, Alaska Baker Lake, N.W.T. to Lyell, B. G.	Annette Ieland, Alaska to Petersburg, Alaska	Over Juneau, Alaska 100 Mi N of Port Hardy, Vancouver Island	ZZZ	4 MI S of Comox, B. C. 4 MI S of Comox, B. C.	Seattle, Wash. to Juneau, Alaska Seattle, Wash. to Juneau, Alaeka
ites	Time (local)		0840 MST 2210 PST 0040 EST	2015 EST	0100 EST 1515 EST	ton to	0850 PST 0850 PST 0850 PST 0850 PST 0850 PST	0850 PST 0205 PST 0225 PST 0250 PST 0750 PST	0810 PST 1016 P8T	1505 PST	1730 PST	0315 PST	1430 PST	1500 PST 1800 PST	1145 PST	1245 PST 2330 PST	0216 PST 0330 PST 0400 PST	0955 PST 1015 PST	
Transcontinental Canada routes	Date		11/20/51	11/23/51	12/4/51	Seattle, Waehington to Alaeka	1/26/52 1/26/52 1/26/52 1/26/52 1/26/52	1/26/52 1/28/52 1/28/52 1/28/52 1/31/52	1/31/52	2/1/52	1/52	2/21/2	2/14/52	2/16/52 3/2/52 3/2/52	3/1/5		4/12/52 4/12/52 4/12/52	4/18/52	
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	Total hori-	leing,	122	, r	. E. e		8099	15 31 4	9 1	8	17	69	10	8 7°S	33	27 66	8414	13	8 5
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		of en- coun- ter, mi	125	70	58 58 58 58		147			, ,	17	163	10	24	33	27	151	, 56 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20	
	Pressure altitude, a		4,800	6,200/8,500	15,400 8,000 15,900		9,000 5,300/11,600 11,100 4,500/10,700	8,100/6,500 5,300 10,000 8,400		7,100/2,500	2, 600/8,500	10.700	11.800	10,300	8,700	9,500	10,700	6,500/9,200	6,200/4,900

STWo altitudes separated by / indicate beginning and end of icing during climb or descent.

TABLE II. - MEASUREMENTS ONLY OF ICING CONDITIONS ENCOUNTERED DURING ROUTINE AIRLINE OPERATIONS FROM NOVEMBER 1951 THROUGH JUNE 1952

(a) Transcontinental and Pacific Coast (U.S.) routes

	(a)	Transec	ncinent	al and	acific (Coast ((U.S.) re	outes		
Pressure altitude, a ft	Hori- zontal extent of en- coun-	Number of icing inci- dents	Total hori- zontal dis- tance	icing rate for all	Average liquid- water content	icir with	mum cont ng incide nin encou	ent inter	Calcu- lated total ice	age true air-
	ter, mi	for en- coun- ter	in icing, mi	icing inci- dents, in./hr	for all icing inci- dents, g/cu m	age icing rate, in. hr	liquid- water		l lation in.	
4,100 5,000 5,200 8,100 13,400/14,200	75 6 8 58 13	4 1 1 3 1	30 6 7 27 13	3.9 7.8 3.7 2.9 4.9	0.4 .7 .2 .2 .4	6.8 7.8 3.7 2.5 4.9	0.5 .7 .2 .2 .4	16 6 7 14 13	0.7 .3 .1 .4 .3	197 192 231 204 192
15,800 15,000/14,100 13,600 11,400/10,300 12,600/11,800	40 21	1 1 2 1	15 16 40 13 23	3.8 10.5 6.1 1.4 6.1	.2 .7 .4 .1	3.8 10.5 6.1 1.9 6.1	.2 .7 .4 .1	15 16 40 13 23	.2 .7 1.3 .1 .6	230 233 237 254 226
9,800 8,900 12,600 13,100 12,900	17 50 8 56 56	1 2 1 1 2	17 38 8 56 49	1.4 6.6 3.9 3.1 10.4	.1 .5 .2 .2	1.4 6.4 3.9 3.1 10.3	.1 .5 .2 .2	17 31 8 56 45	.1 1.2 .1 .7 2.3	249 230 251 242 224
10,700/5,400 5,400 11,300 8,100 8,500	68 4 8 20 7	2 1 1 1 1	60 4 8 20 7	4.5 1.6 5.4 3.2 1.5	.3 .1 .4 .2 .1	5.0 1.6 5.4 3.2 1.5	.4 .1 .4 .2	50 4 8 20 7	1.3 .1 .2 .3	213 214 244 197 221
6,900 3,600/2,300 3,300 2,700 4,000/2,400	8 26 6 12 12	1 1 1 1	8 26 6 12 12	8.5 7.5 10.5 1.6 9.9	.6 .6 1.0 .1	8.5 7.5 10.5 1.6 9.9	.6 1.0 .1	8 26 6 12 12	.3 1.4 .4 .1	225 141 165 184 184
3,700 4,800 7,100/4,900 9,700/7,400 13,300	3 8 29 18 50	1 2 1 1	3 8 21 18 50	7.5 6.1 7.6 3.9 4.2	.6 .4 .5 .2	7.5 6.1 4.7 3.9 4.2	.6 .4 .3 .2	3 8 12 18 50	.1 .2 .6 .3	197 229 250 269 230
6,100 8,300/7,100 8,100 5,400/6,000 6,500/5,000	12 17 8 6 21	1 1 1 2	12 17 8 6 11	3.2 7.8 2.1 3.8 1.0	.2 .5 .2 .4	3.2 7.8 2.1 3.8 1.0	.2 .5 .2 .4	12 17 8 6 14	.2 .6 .1 .1	230 204 228 174 214
13,500 12,600 13,400 13,400 13,400	54 29 77 63 28	3 1 1 2 2	14 29 77 54 18	3.5 4.4 5.9 6.2 4.2	.2 .3 .5 .5	3.2 4.4 5.9 6.3 4.8	.2 .3 .5 .5	7 29 77 31 14	.2 .7 2.3 1.8	217 221 193 189 212
12,000 11,000 8,900 6,300/3,200 5,100/6,400	171 42 151 47 8	3 1 5 2 1	151 42 95 41 8	8.3 4.2 5.8 7.2	.5 1	6.9 4.2 8.3 2+ 1.0	.5 .3 .6 1.0+	77 42 42 32 8	6.3 .8 2.7 1.7	210 227 227 189 162
4,200/3,500 4,300 13,000 13,300 3,800	24 100 12 12 41	1 2 1 1	24 76 12 12 41	2.0 7.5 9.3 4.1	.6 .6 .3	2.0 7.8 9.3 4.1 0.5	.1 .6 .6 .3	24 66 12 12 41	.2 2.8 .5 .2 2.1	235 208 231 232 203
10,300 5,300 8,300 8,100	8 4 18 66	1 1 1 2	8 4 18 59	9.6 3.0 2.7 8.0		9.6 3.0 2.7 6.8	.7 .2 .2	8 4 18 36	.3 .1 .2 2.4	228 216 213 198

^aTwo altitudes separated by / indicate beginning and end of icing during climb or descent.

TABLE II. - Continued. MEASUREMENTS ONLY OF ICING CONDITIONS ENCOUNTERED DURING ROUTINE AIRLINE OPERATIONS FROM NOVEMBER 1951 THROUGH JUNE 1952

Pressure	Hor1-	Number		d Pacifi	1				inued	
altitude, s	zonta exten of en	l of t leing inci-	hori- zontal dis-	Average icing rate for all	Average liquid water content	- icin With	mum cont g incide in encou	nt	Calcu- lated total	age true
d	ter, mi	dents for en- coun- ter	tance in icing, mi	icing inci- dents, in./hr	for all icing inci- dents, g/cu m		liquid-	Hori- zontal ex- tent, mi	ice accumu lation in.	air- speed mph
9,600 11,500 6,200/4,700 6,300 12,300	60 15	3 1 1 3 1	58 16 15 41 15	7.4 8.8 3.3 4.7 3.4	0.5 .6 .2 .4	9.4 9.8 3.3 5.3 5.4	0.6 .6 .2 .4	35 16 15 25 15	1.8 .6 .3 1.2	232 246 220 188 229
7,100/10,10 7,000 9,200 12,400 9,300	55 14 47 20 161	2 1 2 1	14 14 37 20 111	7.7 2.2 3.6 3.7 3.7	.6 .2 .3 .2	7.7 2.2 2.9 3.7 4.5	.6	10 14 30 20 72	.5 .7 .3 2.0	206 208 200 241 215
4,100 5,300/5,900 11,800 9,700/8,300 9,600/3,900	65 9 64 28 71	1 1 1 2	65 9 64 28 42	4.5 6.6 4.9 6.9 9.1	.4 .6 .4 .4	4.5 6.6 4.9 6.9 9.3	.4 .6 .4 .4	65 9 64 28 35	1.4 .3 1.4 .8	202 177 225 240 212
7,700/3,600 6,100 8,300 12,400 10,200/9,700	67 100 30 100 19	3 2 1 4	28 92 30 57 19	1.6 9.0 2.8 5.1 3.7	.1 .7 .2 .4	1.2 8.3 2.8 7.0 3.7	.1 .7 .2 .5	18 53 36 21	.3 4.4 .4 1.4	212 197 223 212 227
13,500 4,400/3,000 6,500/1,600 9,200 6,200/2,900	8 56 57 102 64	1 2 7 3 4	8 40 24 23 22	2.2 2.9 1.3 2.3 3.9	.2 .2 .1 .2	2.2 2.5 1.5 2.9 3.2	.2	8 28 14 19	.2 .6 .3 .3	239 198 163 227 192
5,300 7,400/2,300 14,800 2,200/1,500 1,300/2,900	21 96 15 5	1 3 1 1	21 53 15 5 8	1.9 3.3 6.4 4.5 7.4	.5	1.9 4.0 6.4 4.5 7.4	.1 .3 .5 .5	21 40 15 5	.2 1.1 .4 .2	208 198 220 140 163
5,100/5,800 9,200/11,400 4,000 5,000 5,600/7,600	7 69 26 9 24	1 3 1 1		4.8 4.2 6.7 6.8 0.3	.5	4.8 4.8 5.7 5.8	.4 .3 .5 .6	7 29 26 9 24	.2 .7 1.0	221 217 197 189 205
11,400 13,700 9,700/7,600 9,700 6,500	25 270 84 119 75	7 2 3	45 46 31	0.1 4.5 7.0 8.7 5.2	.5	0.2 0.6 1.7 1.8	.7 .4 .5	14 19 38 25 44	1.0 1.0 1.4 1.3	215 225 228 231 238
13,200 0,000/7,100 9,500/10,700 11,500 13,600	11 71 66 25 63	1 1	49 66 23	4.3 3.7 5.7 3.9 3.1	.5 3 .4 5	.3 .9 .7 .9	.3 .3 .4	11 35 66 23	.3 .8 1.8	221 212 209 227
5,900 10,900 6,500 8,800 6,900	22 31 4 65 34	1 3	51 4 65	5.9 2.1 9.7 9.4 2.2	.4 5 .1 2 .7 9	.9 .1 .7 .4	.4 .1 .7	22 31 4	.6 .3 .2 2.8	219 230 226 216
5,600/4,100 4,600/5,000 6,400 4,600/3,700	16 7 37 16	1	7 2	5.4 7.0 9.2 5.7	.2 3 .6 7	.4	.2 .6 .7	16	.2 2 .2 2 1.7 2	243 209 202 89

 $^{^{\}mathbf{a}}$ Two altitudes separated by / indicate beginning and end of icing during climb or descent.

TABLE II. - Continued. MEASUREMENTS ONLY OF ICING CONDITIONS ENCOUNTERED DURING ROUTINE AIRLINE OPERATIONS FROM NOVEMBER 1951 THROUGH JUNE 1952

(a) Transcontinental and Pacific Coast (U.S.) routes - Concluded

essure	Hori-	Number		Average 1cing	Average liquid-	Max1	num cont		Calcu- lated	Aver- age
t1 tude, a	zontal extent of en- coun- ter, mi	of icing inci- dents for en- ccun- ter	zontal dis- tance in icing, mi		water content for all icing inci- dents, g/cu m	w1th	Average		total ice accumu-	true air- speed, mph
4,200/5,000 7,600/4,000 11,400/5,600 7,700/5,600 6,200/8,400	7 40 169 106 17	1 1 5 3	7 40 81 23 17	6.0 3.8 3.7 5.4 6.8	0.5 .3 .4 .6	6.0 3.8 3.0 2.8 6.8	0.5	7 40 34 13 17	0.2 .7 1.6 .8	222 216 230 198 174
10,900/8,300 8,300/6,500 8,500 9,300 11,200	91 50 39 8, 22	3 3 2 1 1	30 28 28 8 8 22	6.5 3.9 2.9 4.2 4.8	.4 .3 .2 .4	5.6 4.7 2.1 4.2 4.8	.4 .4 .2 .4	19 18 18 8 22	1.0 .6 .4 .2 .5	228 212 213 169 217
11,000 7,200 6,900/4,500 10,600 5,400/4,800	46 4 16 4 32	3 1 2 1 2	31 4 9 4 25	3.8 4.6 7.2 2.0 6.4	.3 .5 .1	3.8 4.6 7.0 2.0 6.2	.3 .6 .1	19 4 6 4 14	.6 .1 .4 .1	232 234 186 231 212
4,800/8,400 14,700 3,700/2,800 3,700 3,600	38 37 14 35 22	2 1 1 1	21 37 14 35 22	6.5 2.5 3.9 2.7 1.5	.5 .2 .3 .2	7.6 2.5 3.9 2.7 1.5	.6 .2 .3 .2	14 37 14 35 22	.6 .5 .3 .4	206 247 214 208 220
7,600 12,200 10,200/11,500 6,400/8,600 12,300/11,200	89 25 13 107 61	1 1 1 2	89 25 13 77 61	3.7 2.5 7.5 7.5 4.3	.3 .2 .6 .6	3.7 2.5 7.5 7.9 4.3	.3 .2 .6 .6	89 25 13 66 61	1.5 .2 .5 2.6 1.2	223 247 190 221 227
10,200/9,100 7,300/6,800 13,100 8,300/8,700 9,700/8,500	28 9 224 33 11	1 1 7 1	28 9 35 33 11	5.6 3.6 3.8 11.7 9.5	.4 .3 .2 .8	5.6 3.6 6.6 11.7 9.5	.4 .3 .5 .8	28 9 8 33 11	.8 .2 .7 1.8	209 173 231 219 229
6,300/8,400 7,000 7,100 10,600/11,200 11,200	99 12 23 23 23	1 1 2 2	99 12 23 11 15	5.2 1.5 1.1 8.1 8.5	.4 .1 .1 .6 .6	5.2 1.5 1.1 6.1 8.0	.4 .1 .1 .4 .6	99 12 23 8 7	2.6 .1 .1 .4 .6	212 238 233 228 224
11,200 7,000/3,700 6,100/4,200 13,400 11,900	53 64 22 38 8	. 2 1 2 2	12 64 11 30 8	7.1 6.3 2.3 2.7 1.9	.5 .4 .2 .2 .2	5.3 6.3 3.2 3.3 1.9	.4 .4 .3 .2	8 64 8 19 8	2.0 .2 .4 .1	230 226 167 227 231
11,900 10,400 11,100/10,200 10,900/9,600 13,400	40 39 25 20 24	3 1 1 2 1	22 39 25 11 24	5.6 12.0 3.4 4.4 2.3	.4 .9 .3 .4	4.8 12.0 3.4 5.1 2.3	.3 .9 .3 .5	11 39 25 8 24	.6 2.2 .4 .3	221 215 184 170 237
11,200 12,200 1,600/1,500 4,000/8,500 8,500	106 82 9 136 41	2 2 1 3 2	19 66 9 119 37	4.6 4.8 1.6 6.5 1.5	.3 .3 .2 .5	6.2 4.5 1.6 6.8 1.5	.4 .3 .2 .5	15 54 9 51 26	.5 1.6 .1 3.8	227 233 138 204 222
1,800/6,000 6,200/5,200 11,000 7,100/8,100	168 11 91 37	2 1 3 1	158 11 53 37	7.7 5.7 4.4 8.5	.6 .4 .3 .7	7.5 5.7 3.0 8.5		102 11 41 37	6.3 .3 1.1 1.6	198 215 226 203

 $^{^{\}rm a}{\rm Two}$ altitudes separated by / indicate beginning and end of icing during climb or descent.

TABLE II. - Continued. MEASUREMENTS ONLY OF ICING CONDITIONS ENCOUNTERED DURING ROUTINE AIRLINE OPERATIONS FROM NOVEMBER 1951 THROUGH JUNE 1952

(b) East Coast (U.S.) routes

		,	(b) Ea	st Coast	(U.S.)	routes				
Pressure altitude, a ft	Hori- zontal extent of en-		Total hori- zontal dis-	Average icing rate for all	liquid- water	icin	mum cont g incide in encou	nt	Calcu- lated total ice	Aver- age true air-
	coun- ter, mi	dents for en- coun- ter	tance in icing, mi	icing inci- dents, in./hr	for all icing inci- dents, g/cu m	Average icing rate, in.	Average liquid- water con- tent, g/cu m		accumu-	speed, mph
14,400 14,700 4,100 4,200 3,800	23 204 5 4 21	1 5 1 1	23 155 5 4 21	4.5 3.8 9.7 12.0 2.1	0.3 .2 .7 .7	4.5 4.0 9.7 12.0 2.1	0.3 .2 .7 .7	23 119 5 4 21	0.4 2.0 .2 .2	280 298 262 193 265
17,600 2,600/1,200 1,700 3,400/2,800 6,500/3,800	150 5 2 22 39	3 1 1 1 3	60 5 2 2 2 32	1.5 1.7 3.7 7.6 2.7	.1 .2 .4 .5	1.5 1.7 3.7 7.6 1.5	.1 .2 .4 .5	40 5 2 22 5	.3 .1 .1 .9	301 156 150 185 213
13,300/10,300 4,400/4,000 13,800 13,800 4,200	180 9 169 260 4	4 1 3 5 1	35 9 25 107 4	4.4 2.5 4.6 3.4 9.0	.2 .4 .3	2.9 2.5 7.2 4.4 9.0	.2 .4 .3	20 9 10 56 4	.5 .2 .4 1.3	300 130 299 279 219
4,000 17,300/14,400 7,600/5,200 13,800 13,800	4 20 43 38 80	1 1 2 4	4 20 43 24 27	6.0 6.8 5.5 .4	.5 .3 .3 .1	6.0 6.8 5.5 1.1	.5 .3 .3 .1	20 43 19 13	.1 .5 .9 .1	225 305 256 283 268
15,400 14,600 21,900 14,000 15,700	23 112 131 51 5	2 5 3 2 1	19 58 74 34 5	.5 1.2 2.1 3.8 6.2	.1 .1 .1 .2 .3	1.0 2.5 2.0 4.2 6.2	.1 .2 .1 .3	9 17 63 30 5	.1 .3 .5 .5	280 250 315 255 284
11,800/15,700 19,700 10,600 11,400/14,500 14,500 5,000/4,700	40 46 244 175 14 31	3 2 6 7 1	24 26 129 83 14 31	2.3 1.4 3.1 4.3 9.3 5.5	.2 .1• .2 .2 .5	5.5 1.4 1.9 2.8 9.3 5.5	.4 .1 .2 .5	12 21 60 28 14 31	.2 .1 1.5 1.3 .5	241 308 276 276 282 265
		(() North	neastern	(U.S.) 1	routes				
5,900 5,300 5,300 4,400/2,500 3,400	7 5 71 97 22	1 1 3 2	7 5 71 48 11	12+ 2.1 3.7 3.3 2.1	0.9+ .1 .3 .2	12+ 2.1 3.7 5.2 1.6	0.9+ .1 .3 .4	7 5 71 21 8	0.4 .1 1.3 .8	217 240 203 207 167
2,500/2,000 2,600/4,700 4,800/1,700 1,200 1,700/2,400	16 19 103 6 5	1 1 4 1	16 19 79 6 5	6.5 5.1 3.3 3.0 4.1	.6 .5 .3 .3	6.5 5.1 2.8 3.0 4.1	.6 .5 .3 .5	16 19 35 6 5	.7 .6 1.6 .2	158 164 163 122 159

 $^{^{\}mathrm{a}}\mathrm{Two}$ altitudes separated by / indicate beginning and end of icing during climb or descent.

9,600

.5

.2

204

212

TABLE II. - Concluded. MEASUREMENTS ONLY OF ICING CONDITIONS ENCOUNTERED DURING ROUTINE AIRLINE OPERATIONS FROM NOVEMBER 1951 THROUGH JUNE 1952

(d) Transcontinental Canada routes Pressure Hori-Number Total Average Average Maximum continuous Calcu-Averaltitude, a zontal of horiicing liquid icing incident lated age ft extent icing zontal rate for all water within encounter total true d1sof enincicontent 1ce airicing coundents tance for all Aver-Average Horiaccumu speed ter, for icing inciin inciage liquidzonta1 lation. mph icing, endents. icing water exin. counm1 in./hr dents, rate, tent. conter in. g/cu m tent, m1 g/cu m 4,800 12+ 3 12+ 1.1+ 0.2 181 2,900 13,100 13,800 12.0 1.1 12.0 1.1 .2 174 206 1.4 .1 1.4 5 5 2.5 .1 271 13,300/14,000 11 1 11 4.8 .4 4.8 .4 11 .2 227 15,600/9,100 12,700 13,000/4,900 52 3 17 2.2 .1 2.8 .2 8 .2 239 4 5.5 .5 5.5 1.7 3.7 .5 193 24 17 2 22 1.8 .1 .1 .2 203 16,500 3.7 7.0 17 .2 .2 17 .2 249 8,300 2 35 .5 6.0 .5 28 1.2 208 7,400/5,200 47 3 31 4.6 .4 3.5 5.0 .3 16 .8 187 5,400/10,200 7,400/4,900 30 3 19 4.5 .4 11 .4 225 19 19 3.9 3.9 19 224 (e) Pacific Coast route: Seattle, Washington to Alaska 10,700/11,800 183 2.6 0.2 2.4 0.2 25 0.8 211 13,300 39 32 3.2 2.5 .2 .2 14 211 13,000 107 55 .1 26 .4 221 11,000 21 2.3 .2 2.3 .2 207 8,100 29 2 18 1.3 .1 1.1 .1 15 .1 218 8,700 55 3 17 2.9 .2 4.6 9,300 9,700 12,400 9,600 .3 205 23 23 2.2 .2 2.2 .2 23 .3 193 215 25 1.3 1.3 .1 25 35 3 10 1.0 .1 .1 .1 193 147 5 93 1.8 1.9 79 .1 .8 215 3,800 10,700/9,800 10,500 57 4.2 .3 4.2 . 3 57 1.2 201 18 18 1.7 . 1 1.7 ٠ī 18 .1 212 4 12 1 7.5 .5 .5 229 12,600 1 12 13 1.0 1.0 12 13 . 1 9,000 13 3.6 .3 3.6 . 3 200 10,200 13,000 213 10 107 1.3 1.3 3.7 .1 23 200 64 10 4.2 1.6 1.7 2 19 .3 15 .3 . 4 224 9,800 10 1.6 10 .1 207 9,800 .1 1.7 .1 215 9,000/5,300 ī 1.8 .1 1.8 .1 212 5,900/9,200 3 157 17 3 1.4 .1 .1 3 .1 197 9,500 50 1.4 .1 1.2 13 11 .4 201 219 9,600 11 11 1.0 51 3 2 20 2.6 .2 3.1 .2 .3 204 10,500 74 17 .3 3.4 .3 10 202 9,600 7 2.1 .2 2.1 .2 .1 197 9.600 48 2.3 2.5

.2

2.0

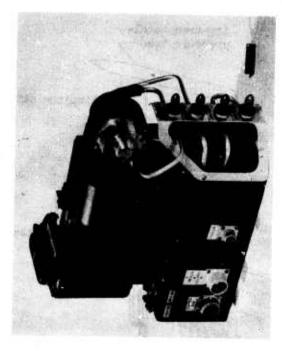
. 2

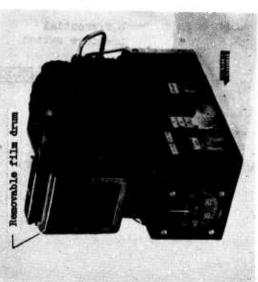
21

2.0

21

 a_{Two} altitudes separated by / indicate beginning and end of icing during climb or









Ice-sensing probe

Figure 1. - Components of NACA pressure-type icing-rate meter.

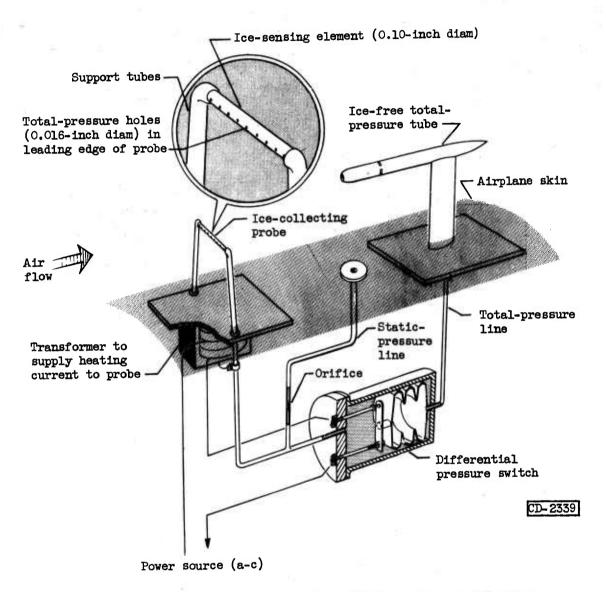


Figure 2. - Schematic diagram of NACA pressure-type icing-rate meter.

NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FOR AERONAUTICS
Lewis Flight Propulsion Laboratory

Recorder Counter No.
at Installation:

Tilm Drum No.
Airline

at Removal:

Ling Meter No.
Airplane No.

21000 Brookpark Rd. Cleveland 11, Ohio

ICING DATA SHEET FOR STATISTICAL STUDY OF AIRCRAFT ICING

Please Note. These data supplement measurements of rate of icing being recorded on film by NACA icing rate meter installed on this aircraft. Meter automatically starts upon encountering icing (recording light) and stops approximately 15 minutes after end of an icing encounter (flashing light). Numerical recorder counter identifies icing encounters on recorder film and therefore must be entered on this sheet to correlate these data with the film records.

Fill in following information when icing is encountered: (Space on back for any detailed comments such as operation of meter, type of ice, cloud formations, effects on aircraft, etc.)

REC- ORDER COUNT- ER NO.	DAYE	FLIGHT NO.	START	IN	(FEET)		EST'D ICING INTEN- SITY	OE- ICING EOUIP. USEO?	
									3
						 	-		
-						<u> </u>			
									Æ
								•	
						- 94	All of the		
				\neg			*34		
					40	- F 1	min.	VALUE OF	
								•	
		L				L			c. 818 (6/9/5

Figure 3. - Sample of data sheets supplied with each icing-rate meter film drum to obtain supplemental icing information from flight crews.

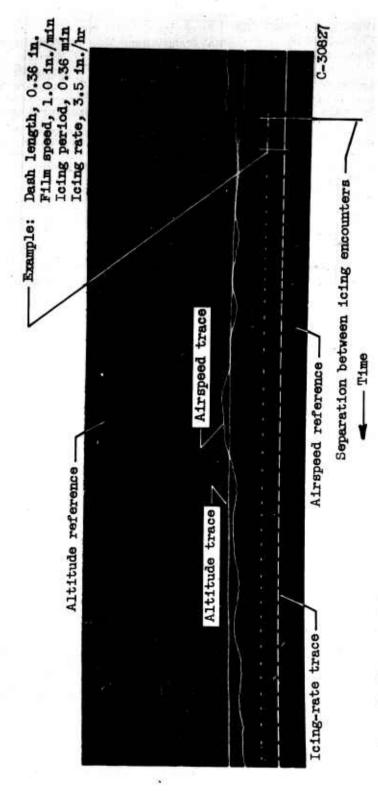


Figure 4. - Section of data film from pressure-type icing-rate meter recorded during icing encounter by airline aircraft.

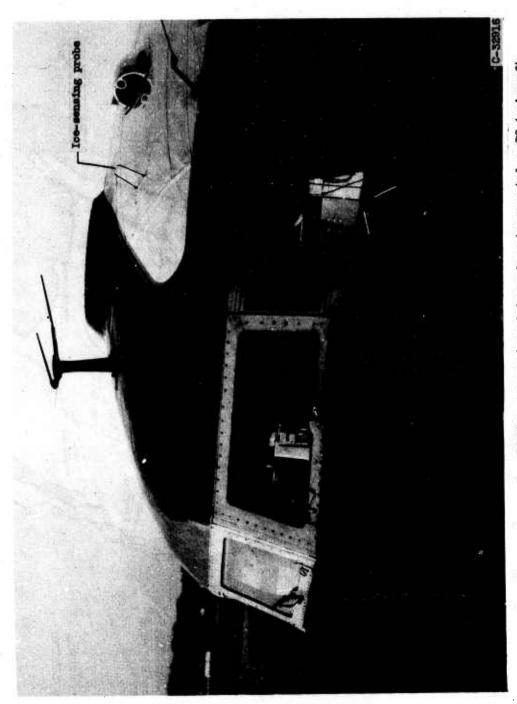
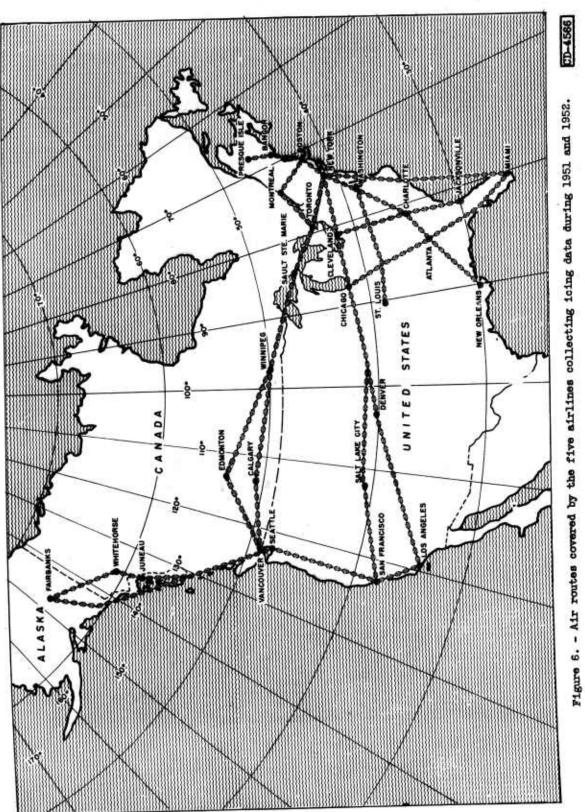
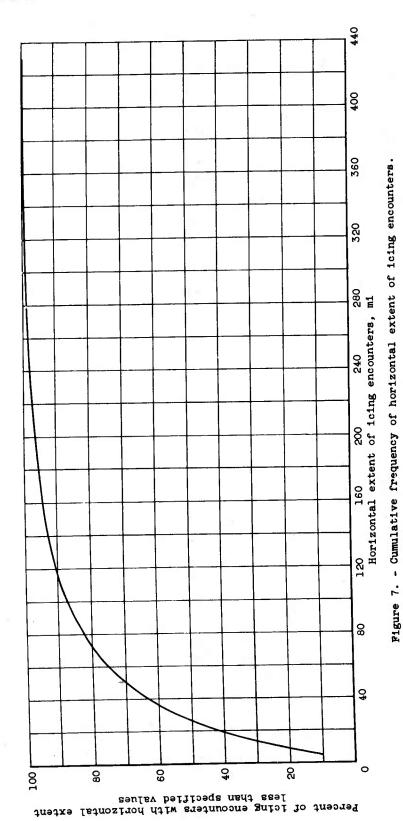


Figure 5. - Ice-sensing probe of MACA pressure-type icing-rate meter mounted on DC-4 aircraft.





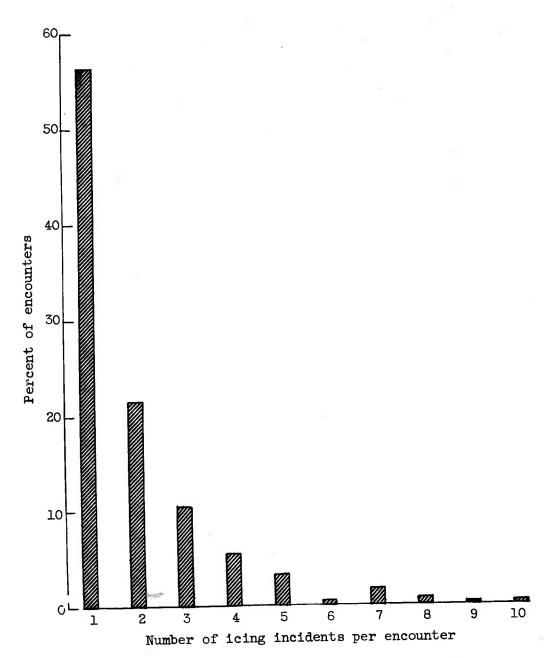
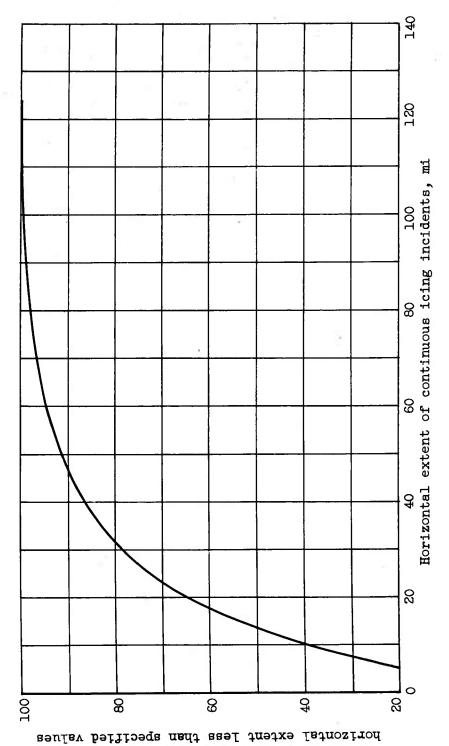
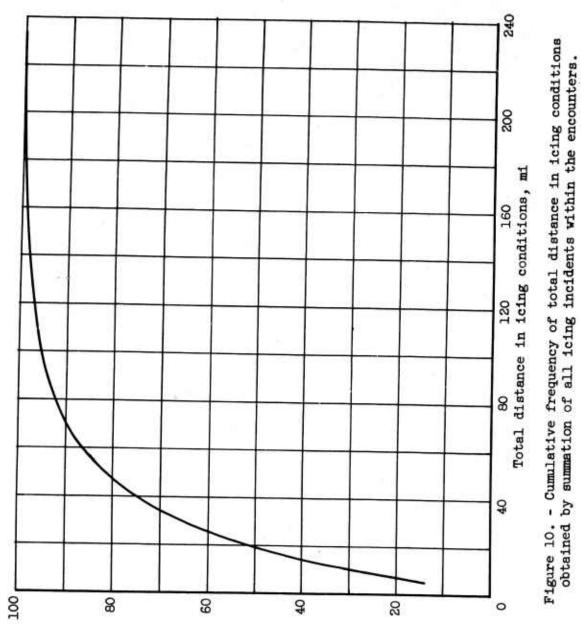


Figure 8. - Frequency distribution of icing incidents per encounter.



Percent of continuous icing incidents with

Figure 9. - Cumulative frequency of horizontal extent of continuous icing incidents within icing encounters.



Percent of encounters with total distance in icing conditions

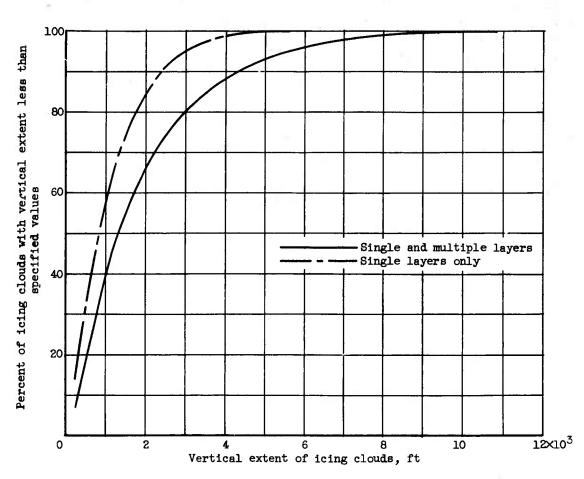
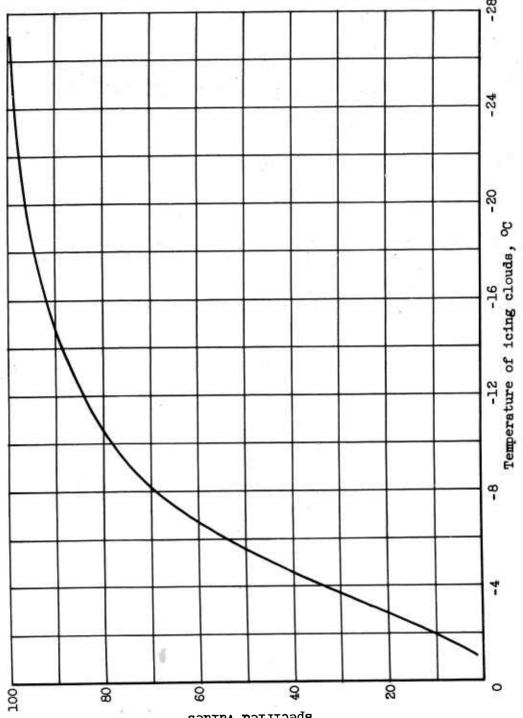


Figure 11. - Cumulative frequency of vertical extent of icing clouds obtained during routine climbing and descending.

Figure 12. - Cumulative frequency of temperature of icing clouds.



Percent of icing encounters with temperatures above

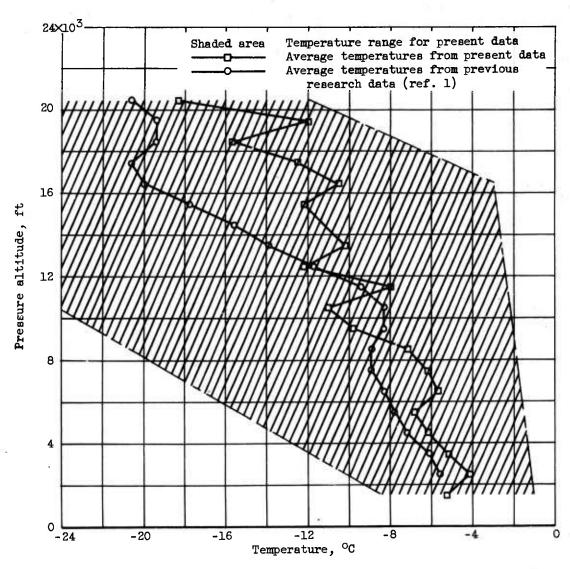


Figure 13. - Variation of icing cloud temperatures with pressure altitude.

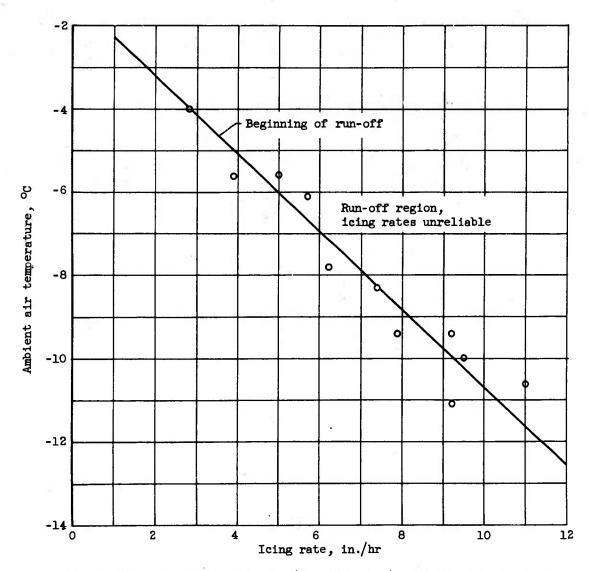
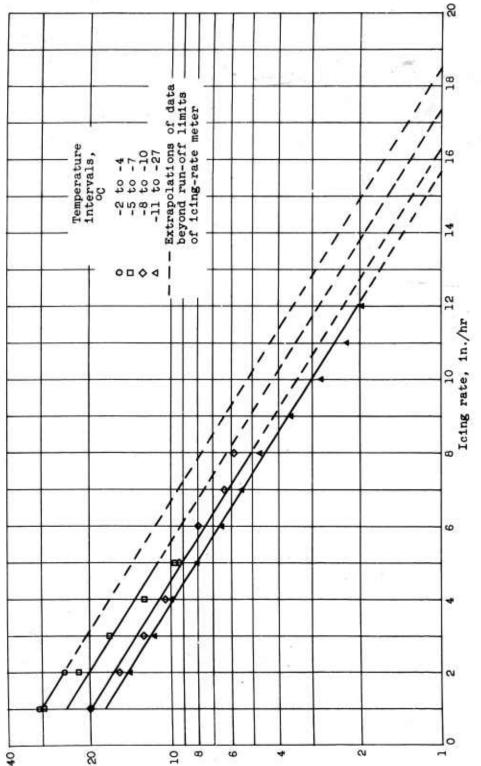


Figure 14. - Incomplete freezing (run-off limit) as a function of icing rate and air temperature on sensing probe of icing-rate meter. Observed data, 150 to 250 mph.

- Cumulative frequency of 1cing rate at various temperature intervals.

Figure 15.



Time in icing with icing rate greater than apecified values, percent of total observations

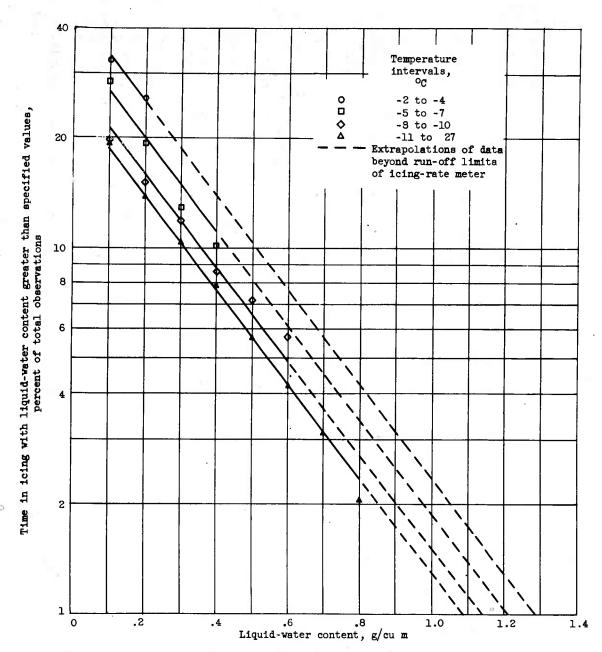
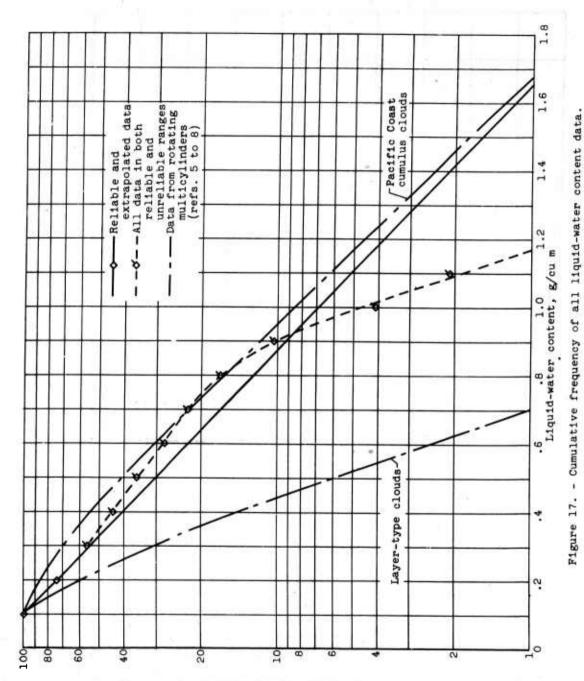


Figure 16. - Cumulative frequency of liquid-water content at various temperature intervals computed from icing-rate data.



Time in icing with liquid-water content greater than

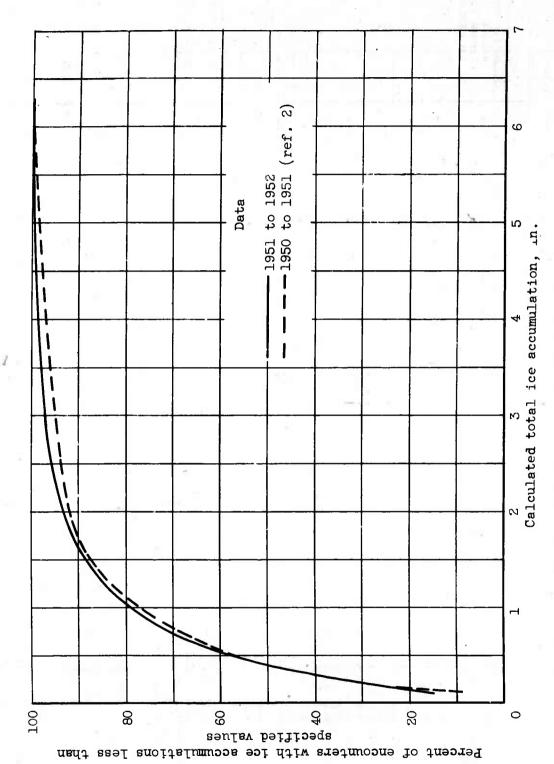


Figure 18. - Cumulative frequency of calculated total ice accumulation on sensing probe of icing-rate meter.

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